

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An Ethernet switch for use in a non-office environment, said Ethernet switch comprising:

a plurality of ports, said switch configured to be operable within a temperature range of at least between approximately 0° C and approximately 60° C, said switch further configured to be operable within a non-condensing humidity range of at least between approximately 10% and approximately 95%, said switch further configured to support at least one of a Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN), a Quality of Service (QoS), a Remote Monitoring (RMON), and a Spanning Tree, wherein said switch automatically configures the VLAN by operating within the temperature range, and wherein said switch is further configured to transfer data between a plurality of devices.

2. (original) A switch in accordance with Claim 1 further configured to be stackable with a second switch.

3. (original) A switch in accordance with Claim 1 further configured to transmit data at a speed of at least one Gigabyte per second.

4. (original) A switch in accordance with Claim 1 further configured to operate substantially at wire speed.

5. (original) A switch in accordance with Claim 1 further configured to be operable under an extended vibration of at least 2g (gravity).

6. (original) A switch in accordance with Claim 5 further configured to be operable under a shock vibration of at least 4g.

7. (previously presented) A switch in accordance with Claim 1 further configured to support a Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP).

8. (original) A switch in accordance with Claim 7 further configured to:

be stackable with a second switch;

be operable under an extended vibration of at least 2g (gravity); and

be operable under a shock vibration of at least 4g.

9. (original) A switch in accordance with Claim 8 further configured to operate substantially at wire speed.

10. (original) A switch in accordance with Claim 9 further configured to transmit data at a speed of at least one Gigabyte per second.

11. (previously presented) An Ethernet switch for use in a non-office environment, said Ethernet switch comprising:

a plurality of ports, said switch configured to:

support a Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN), a Quality of Service (QoS), a Remote Monitoring (RMON), and a Spanning Tree;

transmit data at a speed of at least one Gigabyte per second;

be operable within a temperature range of at least between approximately 0° C and approximately 60°C, wherein said switch is further configured to transfer data between a plurality of devices;

be operable within a non-condensing humidity range of at least between approximately 10% and approximately 95%;

be stackable with a second switch; and

be operable under an extended vibration of at least 2g (gravity).

12. (currently amended) An Ethernet network comprising:

a first switch configured to be used in a non-office environment; and

a plurality of user devices operationally coupled to said first switch such that said first switch transfers data from at least one of said plurality of user devices to a different one of said plurality of user devices, said first switch configured to:

be operable within a temperature range of at least between approximately 0° C and approximately 60°C;

be operable within a non-condensing humidity range of at least between approximately 10% and approximately 95%; and

support at least one of a Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN), a Quality of Service (QoS), a Remote Monitoring (RMON), and a Spanning Tree, wherein said first switch automatically configures the VLAN by operating within the temperature range.

13. (original) A network in accordance with Claim 12 further comprising a second switch operationally coupled to said first switch, said second switch and said first switch configured to cooperatively operate as one switch.

14. (original) A network in accordance with Claim 12 wherein said first switch further configured to transmit data at a speed of at least one Gigabyte per second.

15. (original) A network in accordance with Claim 12 wherein said first switch further configured to be operable under an extended vibration of at least 2g (gravity).

16. (original) A network in accordance with Claim 15 wherein said first switch further configured to be operable under a shock vibration of at least 4g.

17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A network in accordance with Claim [[17]] 12 wherein said first switch further configured to:

be stackable with a second switch;

be operable under an extended vibration of at least 2g (gravity); and

be operable under a shock vibration of at least 4g.

19. (original) A network in accordance with Claim 18 wherein said first switch further configured to operate substantially at wire speed.

20. (original) A network in accordance with Claim 19 wherein said first switch further configured to transmit data at a speed of at least one Gigabyte per second.